

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

_____)	
In the Matter of)	
)	
Federal-State Joint Board on)	CC Docket No. 96-45
Universal Service)	
_____)	

SPRINT CORPORATION'S COMMENTS IN SUPPORT
OF VERIZON'S REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION
OF TIME TO FILE REPLY COMMENTS

On December 12, 2002 Verizon requested a two-week extension of the date for filing reply comments on the Joint Board's October 15, 2002 *Recommended Decision* in the above-referenced proceeding.¹

Sprint agrees with Verizon that the Universal Service issues raised in the *Recommended Decision* are important and complex, and warrant full and informed responses. The currently scheduled short time between the comment date and the reply comment date (December 20 for comments and January 3 for reply comments) combined with the Christmas and New Years holidays will not provide sufficient time for such full and informed responses. Sprint also agrees with Verizon that a short two-week extension of time for reply comments so that parties may develop a more thorough response will not prejudice the interests of any parties.

¹ *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Recommended Decision, FCC 02J-2, released October 16, 2002 ("*Recommended Decision*"); Public Notice, DA 02-2976 (released November 5, 2002).

Accordingly, Sprint supports Verizon's request for a two-week extension of the filing date for reply comments in this proceeding to January 17, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

SPRINT CORPORATION

//s//

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